

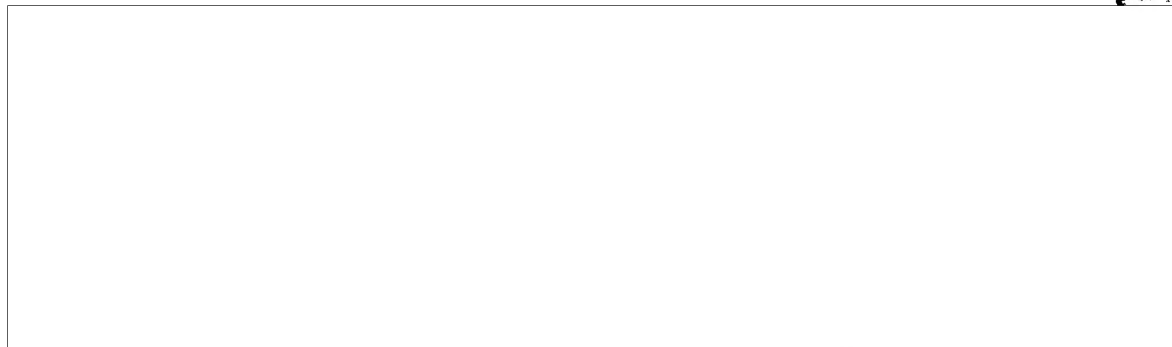


General Defense  
Intelligence Programs

S-025/DG

Mr. James S. Van Wagenen  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Defense  
Room H-144, Capitol Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Jim:



(U) Because it's so important, I've asked DIA to consider reprogramming to maintain the level of effort. If funds can be found, we will come to the authorization and appropriations committees with a formal request.

Enclosure



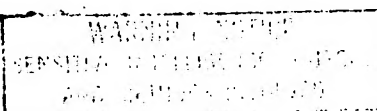
ARMY review completed.

DIA review completed.

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NO FOREIGN DISSEM ORCON

Approved by  
22 Feb 1988

22 Feb 1988



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DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

DCI/IC 5334-82

22 February 1982

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Letter to Mr. James S. Van Wagenen, S-025/DG, 22 Feb 82

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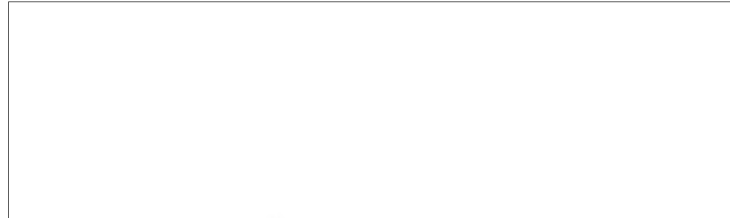
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USSR AND CHINESE PSYCHOENERGETICS INVESTIGATIONS



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REVIEW ON 18 FEBRUARY 1988

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**SECRET**DIA/DT-1A  
18 Feb 82**A. INTRODUCTION**

[ ] This paper summarizes recent intelligence assessments of USSR psychoenergetics investigations, and includes a brief review of new psychoenergetics research in China. Issues that have a direct relationship to the [ ] are highlighted.

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[ ] Main aspects [ ] are also reviewed, and critical issues identified.

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**B. USSR PSYCHOENERGETICS INVESTIGATIONS****1. Definitions**

(U) In traditional parapsychology research (psychoenergetics), the phenomena under study can be generally described as two types: (1) forms of perception that cannot be explained by known physical or sensory mechanisms (i.e., extrasensory perception (ESP), telepathy, remote viewing); and (2) physical actions, via mental volition (conscious or subconscious), that take place outside the biological organism that cannot be explained by known physical mechanisms (i.e., psychokinesis (PK)).

(U) There are terminology variations used in describing these general classes of phenomena, depending on the orientation of the research or the viewpoint of the researchers. In the USSR, there are investigators that prefer traditional parapsychological concepts (ESP, etc.), and those that prefer terms and concepts that imply physical or biological mechanisms. The term "psychoenergetics" seems to be preferred by most USSR researchers, at least those from a physical science background.

(U) In the USSR, there is an implicit assumption among psychoenergetics researchers that parapsychological phenomena can eventually be explained in terms of known (or modified) physical mechanisms.

**2. USSR Psychoenergetics Program - An Integrated Effort**

(U) In 1975, a high-level commission was officially established in the USSR to review psychoenergetics research. The commission was under the direction of the vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences and included several institute directors and deputy directors, and Party officials.

(C) After a three year review period, this commission's recommendations led to an integrated approach to the study of psychoenergetics in the USSR. A centralized coordinating and review group was identified which had several Ministry of Defense (MOD) representatives. A new psychoenergetics laboratory (Bioelectronics Laboratory) was established which reviews and integrates psychoenergetics research performed at other laboratories and also performs its own research. This laboratory has access to many specialists in biological, physical, and psychological fields. In addition, this laboratory also serves a screening function for identifying people from the general population, throughout the USSR, who can perform well on psychoenergetic tasks.

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(U) This commission also identified many problems on how psychoenergetics had been conducted in the USSR. These problems appear to have been resolved with this new integrated research approach, as a result of implementing new procedures for disseminating research data, and for tightening control over people who might access this data. Some of these issues had also been addressed by previous commissions.

(C) This new effort has MOD backing and support, and for some aspects, appears to have KGB support. There is also backing from high-level officials in the Communist Party, probably at the Council of Ministers level.

(U) During this three year review period, this commission took an active part in psychoenergetics investigations. Numerous experiments were set up at various laboratories for their observation and control. As a result of these direct observations, the chairman of the commission affirmed the reality of psychoenergetic phenomena and issued public statements with that conclusion.

### 3. USSR Research Facilities

(S) Psychoenergetics investigations have a long history in the USSR, starting with the early work of L. L. Vasiliev at the Institute of Brain Research in Leningrad (V.M. Bekhterev) in the period 1921-1938. This research was resumed in 1960 by Vasiliev and continued until his death in 1965. Subsequently other laboratories began psychoenergetics research, the main open one being the Popov Societies' Laboratory for Bioinformation (1965). Research was also initiated at some of the biophysical and psychological facilities during this period.

[ ] Since 1978, major efforts occur at the Bioelectronics Laboratory (Popov Society) and the Institute for Radioengineering and Electronics (IRE) in Moscow. Other psychoenergetics investigations occur at the Institute of Psychology and at the Institute of Higher Nervous Activity, Moscow; at the Institute of Physiology, Baku; at Kazakh State University (Biophysics Dept), Alma-Ata; and at several other facilities in the USSR.

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(S) Although much of the available data has a phenomena understanding orientation, it is also known that applications-oriented psychoenergetics investigation has been performed since the late 1960's or early 1970's. This early work was probably rather fragmented. The recent integrated effort calls attention to a need, in the USSR, to integrate and coordinate this work both from a phenomena understanding and an applications viewpoint.

### 4. Scope of USSR Research

(C) The scope of the new psychoenergetics effort includes both information (i.e., ESP, remote viewing) and energetic (i.e., psychokinesis) aspects of the phenomena. Although most of the information available to date on USSR work places psychoenergetics research in a theoretical or phenomena understanding perspective, it is known through intelligence data that applications oriented research is also being pursued. Application goals are probably of high interest to MOD and Party officials who support and monitor this work.

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(U) Some of the phenomena understanding research involves facilities having various physical measurement and sensing devices. This work emphasizes psychokinetic tasks in an attempt to identify energy transfer mechanisms.

[ ] Although there is little known about the applied nature of this work, there is evidence of a strong interest in applying ESP/remote viewing phenomena in accessing secure data, in information transmission (i.e., long distance communication) and in locating lost or hidden material or people. Specific details on results of these USSR investigations are not yet available.

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[ ] Other USSR research, which may have both theoretical and applied implications, examines possible large scale psychokinetic influence on physical devices and on biological systems. These include interference with sensitive electronic devices, deformation of material samples, influence of growth rates of plants, influence of chemical reactions, and influence of psychological and physiological states of people. Although success is claimed by USSR researchers on these effects, specific laboratory data is not yet available to evaluate these claims.

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(S) Psychoenergetics work on ESP/remote viewing that is purely applications oriented would probably not require an extensive research facility. A few high-talent subjects might be all that is required for some initial application goals. These people could be located most anywhere, and need not be associated with any of the known psychoenergetics facilities, other than for initial screening and evaluation. Consequently, purely applications oriented work would not necessarily occur at the identified facilities; such effort would probably not be possible to identify.

#### 5. Potential Threat to US Security

(C) Even though the mechanism for an integrated psychoenergetics research program now exists in the USSR, it is not clear what advances in phenomena understanding and applications have actually occurred. These are major unknowns. Research in free-world countries is of little help in evaluating application potential since all open work does not address operational issues.

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C. CHINESE PSYCHOENERGETICS RESEARCH

(S/NOFORN) In China there is currently a high level of academic interest and government support for investigations into psychoenergetics phenomena. There are at least seven scientific institutes involved in this work. Chinese researchers refer to this phenomena as "exceptional human abilities."

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(S/NOFORN) The reported experimental investigations have concentrated on recognition of concealed written material and objects. There is also recent work involving psychokinetics. An experiment conducted at the Institute of High Energy Physics, Peking, indicated that various sensors secured in shielded containers are activated during a remote viewing experiment. The target was written material placed in the container with the sensors.

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1. Background

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(S/NF/WNINTEL/ORCON) In view of foreign research in psychoenergetics, it was considered vital that these efforts be monitored and evaluated to determine what, if any, threat they pose to national security.

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(S/NOFORN) Remote viewing refers to a specific ability of some people, via an as yet unexplained mental or psychic process, to access information previously unknown to them. This includes describing features and activities at remote places thousands of miles distant. There is a steadily growing data base from various free-world and USSR investigators that attest to the reality of this phenomena, even though its specific physical mechanism cannot as yet be identified.

(S/NOFORN) Psychokinetic (PK) investigations are not a major investigation goal at this time, mainly due to funding limitations and to a judgment that remote viewing phenomena would be more significant from a threat viewpoint.

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SUMMARY OF US PSYCHOENERGETICS RESEARCH FACILITIES

<u>No.</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Main interest (1)</u>	<u>Years of Experience</u>	<u>Type research</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1	Stanford Research Institute, International (SRI), Menlo Park, Ca	RV, GESP, some PK	Since 1973	Mostly applied; some basic PK with random event generators (REG's)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In secure facility at Radio Physics Lab</li> <li>- Physics background</li> <li>- Willing to investigate applied issues</li> </ul>
2	Mind Science Foundation San Antonio, TX	GESP, PK	Since 1976	Basic research. PK with random event generators (REG's) and biological specimens.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not secure</li> <li>- Psychological background</li> <li>- Good Physiological instrumentation</li> <li>- No applied interest</li> </ul>
3	Applied Science Department, Princeton Univ., NJ (Dean R. Jahn)	PK, RV	Since 1977	Basic research. PK targets include sensitive instruments, and large-scale devices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not secure</li> <li>- Physics, Psychology orientation</li> <li>- Possible applied interest</li> <li>- Uses student subjects (no high performers sought)</li> </ul>
4	Foundation for Research into the Nature of Man (FRNM), Durham, NC	GESP, PK	Since 1965	Basic research. PK with random event generators.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not secure</li> <li>- Psychology orientation</li> <li>- No applied interest</li> </ul>
5	Lawrence Livermore Laboratories (L <sup>3</sup> ), Livermore, CA (Lab of R. Hawke)	PK	Since 1977	Basic/applied	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Secure facility</li> <li>- Very limited effort; unofficial</li> <li>- Some excellent plans, instrumentation, etc.</li> <li>- Not willing to do classified work</li> </ul>
6	Psychophysical Research Lab, Princeton, NJ	GESP, PK	Since 1978	Basic research. PK with REG's	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not secure</li> <li>- Previously located at Maimonides Medical Center, Brooklyn, NY</li> <li>- Psychology orientation</li> <li>- No applied interest</li> </ul>
7	Physics Dept, Washington Univ., St. Louis, MO	PK	Since 1979	Basic research PK with REG's Study of "spontaneous" events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not secure</li> <li>- Theoretical orientation, no clear applied interest</li> </ul>

(1) Terms used here: Remote Viewing (RV); General ESP (GESP); and Psychokinesis (PK)

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SUMMARY OF US PSYCHOENERGETICS RESEARCH FACILITIES (Cont'd)

<u>No.</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Main interest</u>	<u>Years of Experience</u>	<u>Type research</u>	<u>Comments</u>
8	Psychophysical Lab, Electrical Engineering Dept, Duke Univ, Durham, NC (1)	GESP	Since 1979	Basic research Emphasis on physiological monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Very extensive computer facility</li> <li>- Not secure</li> <li>- They are willing to accept additional support/funding</li> <li>- No applied orientation</li> </ul>
9	Eyring Research Inst., Provo, Utah	PK	None	Basic and applied	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Secure facility</li> <li>- They desire to enter research, but have not performed any preliminary investigations to date. They have access to a qualified staff and consultant</li> </ul>
10	American Society of Psychological Research NY, NY	PK, GESP	Decades	Very basic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work is hard to evaluate</li> <li>- Not secure</li> </ul>

(1)NOTE: This facility (Item 8) is not the same as the early Duke University parapsychology laboratory which was part of the Psychology Dept. This was Dr. J. B. Rhine's laboratory, which investigated parapsychological phenomena from 1929 until it was closed at his retirement in 1965. Dr. Rhine then became director of FRNM (see Item 4) until his death in 1980.